



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS**

Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2017

Dear Chairmen Blunt and Cole and Ranking Members Murray and DeLauro:

On behalf of the undersigned 217 organizations, we are writing to encourage your continued support for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the FY 2018 appropriations process, specifically the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at CDC. We strongly urge you to maintain FY 2017 funding levels for CDC chronic disease programs and, where possible, provide targeted increases to key public health programs. Although chronic diseases are largely preventable and the complications of chronic diseases are largely controllable, they are the leading cause of death and disability, and the leading driver of healthcare costs, in our nation and in all 50 states and U.S. territories. Without a robust investment in chronic disease prevention and control programs, we will never bend the cost curve in healthcare spending.

We deeply appreciate the support you gave to each of the important programs in FY 2017, showing your understanding of the evidence-based activities to reduce the leading causes of death, disability and healthcare costs in America and the importance of translating research results into communities through public health practice. These initiatives address our nation's leading causes of death and disability – heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, arthritis, epilepsy and others – which have a disproportionate burden on American families, employers, and health care expenditures, and depress economic development.

We urge you to maintain the existing funding mechanisms of this Center, which provide resources and technical expertise through state health departments, national organizations, and local partner groups. These entities support interventions to prevent and control chronic disease and promote opportunities for people to reach their full health and human potential and be personally responsible for their health and the health of their families. Maintaining the existing funding mechanisms allows for ongoing accountability, transparency and measurable outcomes with Congress, states and taxpayers.

Looking to FY 2018 funding decisions, we support sustained categorical funding for the Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Prevention, Million Hearts, and Tobacco Control programs. We also encourage sustained funding for key cancer programs within the Center including colorectal, prostate, ovarian, and skin cancer,



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registries, and cancer survivorship, along with the Prevention Research Centers, Healthy Schools, REACH, Arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, lupus, and other health promotion programs. The size, scope and complexity of chronic diseases and disabilities has required substantial investments in research to help us better understand how to prevent and control these conditions. It is essential and fiscally responsible to translate those learnings and tools into programs in communities and real world settings.

The groups listed below, representing a broad spectrum of patients, public health and healthcare professionals and providers, strongly encourage you to continue to support these essential CDC programs to provide evidence-based services that spread the tools necessary for all Americans to reach full health potential and life expectancy.

We thank you again for your leadership and support of public health and prevention.

Sincerely,

John W. Robitscher, MPH
CEO
The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

And the undersigned:

ABRAZO Arizona Heart Hospital
Active Living By Design
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Advocates for Better Children's Diets
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance of New York State YMCAs
Alabama State Alliance of YMCAs
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Impact Movement
America Walks
American Academy of Neurology
American Association of Colleges of
Pharmacy
American Association of Diabetes
Educators
American Association of Neurological
Surgeons
American Cancer Society Cancer
Action Network
American College of Cardiology
American College of Preventive
Medicine
American College of Sports Medicine

American Council on Exercise
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Institute for Cancer
Research
American Lung Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Planning Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Echocardiography
Anchorage Community YMCA
Arkansas Alliance of YMCA's
Arthritis Foundation
Asian & Pacific Islander American
Health Forum
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Schools and Programs of
Public Health
Association of State and Territorial
Health Officials



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Association of State Public Health
Nutritionists
ASTDD
Barbour County Health Department
Boston Public Health Commission
Bridging the Gap Education
CA WIC Assn.
California Alliance for Funding
Prevention
California Public Health Association-
North
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
Cancer Council of the Pacific Islands
Cathedral Square Corporation/Support
and Services at Home Program
Cattaraugus County NY Health
Department
Center for Science in the Public
Interest
ChangeLab Solutions
Child Neurology Foundation
Coalitions Work
Colorado Children's Campaign
Colorado State Alliance of YMCAs
Commissioned Officers Association of
the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.
(COA)
Community Health Councils
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs
Consortium to Lower Obesity in
Chicago Children
DBA Susan Lopez-Payan
Directors of Health Promotion and
Education (DHPE)
Deep River , LLC
Department of Epidemiology, Emory
University Rollins School of Public
Health
Dravet Syndrome Foundation
Eat Smart Move More South Carolina
Ellipses
Emory Centers for Training & Technical
Assistance
Endocrine Society
EPILEPSY CALIFORNIA
Epilepsy Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation Central & South
Texas
Epilepsy Foundation Chesapeake
Region
Epilepsy Foundation Colorado

Epilepsy Foundation Eastern
Pennsylvania
Epilepsy Foundation Heart of
Wisconsin
Epilepsy Foundation Louisiana
Epilepsy Foundation New England
Epilepsy Foundation Northwest
Epilepsy Foundation of Alabama
Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut
Epilepsy Foundation of Delaware
Epilepsy Foundation of Georgia
Epilepsy Foundation of Greater
Chicago
Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los
Angeles
Epilepsy Foundation of Greater
Southern Illinois
Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii
Epilepsy Foundation of Indiana
Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana
Epilepsy Foundation of Metropolitan
New York
Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
Epilepsy Foundation of Mississippi
Epilepsy Foundation of Missouri and
Kansas
Epilepsy Foundation of Nevada
Epilepsy Foundation of North Carolina
Epilepsy Foundation of North Central
Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska
Epilepsy Foundation of Oklahoma
Epilepsy Foundation of Utah
Epilepsy Foundation of Vermont
Epilepsy Foundation of Virginia
Epilepsy Foundation of Western
Wisconsin
Epilepsy Foundation Texas-
Houston/Dallas/Fort Worth/West Texas
Epilepsy Foundation Western/Central
Pa
Florida State Alliance of YMCAs
FoodCorps
Fund for Public Health in NYC
Georgia Alliance of YMCAs
Georgia Society for Public Health
Education
GirlTrek, Inc
GW Cancer Center
Greater Burlington YMCA
Health by Design
Health Power For Minorities
Health Resources in Action



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Healthy Teen Network
Healthy Weight Partnership
Healthy Youth Development-
Prevention Research Center
Hefelfinger Consulting, Inc
Hodding Carter Memorial YMCA
Hope for Hypothalamic Hamartomas
Illinois Public Health Institute
Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs
Indiana State Alliance of YMCAs
Intermountain Public Health
Consulting, LLC
Iowa Alliance of YMCAs
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of
Public Health
Kalusugan + Kalakasan Center for
Health & Wellness
Kansas State Alliance of YMCAs
Kentucky State Alliance of YMCA's
Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food,
Education & Policy, Teachers College
Columbia University
Lithuanian Health Science University
LIVESTRONG
LiveWell Colorado
Louisiana Public Health Institute
Lupus Foundation of America
Mended Hearts
Missouri State Alliance of YMCAs
Mississippi State Alliance of YMCAs
NASTAD
National Association of County and
City Health Officials (NACCHO)
National Association of Epilepsy
Centers
National Association of Pediatric Nurse
Practitioners
National Athletic Trainer's Association
National Coalition for Promoting
Physical Activity
National Consumers League
National Forum for Heart Disease &
Stroke Prevention
National Kidney Foundation
National Lipid Association
National Network of Public Health
Institutes
National Physical Activity Plan Alliance
National WIC Association
NC Alliance of YMCAs
Nemours Children's Health System
New Hampshire State Alliance of
YMCAs

New Jersey Alliance of YMCAs
New Mexico Alliance of YMCAs
NJPHA
North American Association of Central
Cancer Registries
Northern Illinois Public Health
Consortium
NOVA ScriptsCentral
Novo Nordisk Inc.
Ohio Alliance of YMCAs
Oklahoma Alliance of YMCAs
Oregon State Alliance of YMCAs
Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease
Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome
Foundation
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute
Prevention Research Center in St.
Louis
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses
Association
ProVention Health Foundation
Public Health Institute
Real Food for Kids
Redstone Global Center for Prevention
and Wellness
Research!America
Safe Routes to School National
Partnership
SC Alliance of YMCAs
Seafood Nutrition Partnership
SHAPE America - Society of Health and
Physical Educators
Siouxland District Health Department
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Solera Health, Inc.
Solve ME/CFS Initiative
South East American Indian Council,
Inc.
Southwestern Montana Family YMCA
Spina Bifida Association
St. Mary's County Health Department
Stanford Prevention Research Center
Stark County Health Department
State Alliance of Michigan YMCAs
StopAfib.org / American Foundation for
Women's Health
Suffolk County Bureau of Public Health
Nursing
Tennessee State Alliance of YMCA
Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
The Consortium



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The Humane Society of the United States
The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
The Task Force for Global Health
Thomas Jefferson University College of Pop Hlth, MPH Program
Trust for America's Health
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
UM Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities
University of Hawaii, Pacific Cancer Programs
WalkBoston
Wisconsin Alliance of YMCAs
Washington State Alliance of YMCA's
Wisconsin Community Health Fund
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
Women's Heart Alliance
World Hypertension League
YMCA Alliance of Maine
YMCA of Delaware
YMCA of Northern Utah
YMCA of the USA